

NOAA and FMI Tiksi Project Updates
August 26th, 2009

PROJECTS PLANNED FOR INSTALLATION IN SEPTEMBER 2009

- (1) Radiation Sensors for the Baseline Surface Radiation Network Program
- (2) Climate Reference Network Site
- (3) Black Carbon Sampling
- (4) Surface Ozone Sampling
- (5) Surface Heat and Energy Balance Fluxes
- (6) Carbon Dioxide and Methane concentrations
- (7) Carbon Dioxide and Methane Fluxes
- (8) Green House Gas Sampler
- (9) Aerosol sampler

The Total Commercial Value of the equipment in the 8 NOAA and FMI projects is approximately \$335,000 USD

This list does not include the AARI projects

SHIPPING

Instruments for Projects 1,2, 4 and 5 were shipped from Boulder to Yakutsk on August 25th.

Instruments for Project 6, 7 and 9 are in Helsinki awaiting shipment to St Petersburg

Projects 3 and 8 are in Tiksi

Issues:

NOAA and Yakutsk-Roshydromet need to confirm details of shipping Projects 1,2, 4 and 5 from Yakutsk to Tiksi

FMI and Polar Foundation need to confirm details of shipping Project 6 and 7 from Moscow to Tiksi

CUSTOMS

NOAA Equipment will clear customs in Yakutsk

FMI Equipment will clear customs in St Petersburg

Issues:

NOAA needs to obtain estimates from broker in Yakutsk on how long customs process will require (NOTE: NOAA Team is scheduled to be in Yakutsk between September 8 and 10 to assist customs process as may be necessary)

FMI is still obtaining proper gifting documents to transfer project 6 and 7 instruments to Yakutsk
Roshydromet and complete documents necessary for customs clearance

NOTE: As this is a major issue, additional information will be provided on customs in a separate document by August 28.

DATES OF INSTALLATION IN TIKSI

AARI Team – Arriving September 7

NOAA Team – Arriving September 10 – Departing September 21

FMI/MGO Team - Arriving September 14 – Departing September 23rd

Polar Foundation Team – Arriving September 8 – Departing October 8

Issues:

US Team did not receive visa invitations until August 26th. Russian visas need to be expedited.

MGO Team has not yet identified funding for travel
US and Finnish teams need special permissions for travel to Tiksi

INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT

The science teams need to interact closely with the Polar Foundation on infrastructure requirements for project installation. A priority order for projects and schedule is required.

Issues:

Agreed method has not been established to communicate between science teams and Polar Foundation.
CH2MHill and Polar Foundation contract not yet signed. Expected sign date is September 1.

NOTE: NOAA, NSF, CH2MHill and the Polar Foundation are scheduling a teleconference this week to address this issue

OPERATIONS

At time of installation a number of operational issues need to be addressed:

- What future infrastructure requirements/improvements are needed?

- Project operations plans need to be discussed with Tiksi staff

- The documents providing permissions to operate must be matched carefully with actual instruments being installed

- A preliminary business plan for the Tiksi Observatory needs to be developed

- CH2MHill, Polar Foundation and Roshydromet have to resolve issue of building ownership

ADMINISTRATIVE DOCUMENTS

The Science Plan agreed upon during the May, 2009 meeting in Boulder, CO has not been signed and accepted.

Issue: U.S. side has not yet provided comments and English translation. Expected delivery date is no later than August 31st.

PERSONNEL SCHEDULED FOR TRAVEL

AARI

Alexander Mashtas

Vasily Kustov

MGO

Alexander Reshetnikov

Victor Ivakhov

NOAA

Taneil Uttal

Ludmila Matrosova

Robert Albee

Brian Vasel

FMI

Tuomas Laurila

Mika Aurela

Eija Asmi